Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph that starts on page 17, line 15, as follows:

Even though the high-level architectural features of a processor are typically prescribed by an ISA 110, 120, 130, program instructions corresponding to a specific ISA 110-130 need not necessarily be executed on a specific CPU; it is only required that ~~that~~ the program instructions execute on a CPU that conforms to the specific ISA 110-130. For instance, a program component 112, 122, 132 that is encoded using program instructions of the x86 ISA can be executed on any CPU that implements the x86 ISA. Likewise, a program component 112, 122, 132 coded with MIPS32 program instructions can be executed on any processor that conforms to the MIPS32 ISA.

Please amend the paragraph that starts on page 46, line 1, as follows:

Although the present invention and its objects, features, and advantages have been described in detail, other embodiments are encompassed by the invention as well. In addition to implementations of the invention using hardware, the invention can be embodied in software disposed, for example, in a computer usable (e.g., readable) medium configured to store the software (i.e., computer readable program code). The program code causes the enablement of the functions or fabrication, or both, of the invention disclosed herein. For example, this can be accomplished through the use of general programming languages (e.g., C, C++, etc.), hardware description languages (HDL) including Verilog HDL, VHDL, AHDL (Altera Hardware Description Language) and so on, or other programming and/or circuit (i.e.,

schematic) capture tools available in the art. The program code can be disposed in any known computer usable medium including semiconductor memory, magnetic disk, and optical disc (e.g., CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, ~~etc.)~~ etc.), and as a computer data signal embodied in a computer usable (e.g., readable) transmission medium (e.g., carrier wave or any other medium including digital, optical or analog-based medium). As such, the code can be transmitted over communication networks including the Internet and intranets. It is understood that the functions accomplished and/or structure provided by the invention as described above can be represented in a core that is embodied in program code and may be transformed to hardware as part of the production of integrated circuits. Also, the invention may be embodied as a combination of hardware and software.